Docket No.: 20435/0202684-US0

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Youichi Zenda et al.

Application No.: 10/529,957 Confirmation No.: 7457

Filed: November 30, 2005 Art Unit: 3679

For: MEMBER-JOINING DEVICE Examiner: N. Amiri

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated February 9, 2007, please amend the aboveidentified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.